GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:452
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2007
E WASTE
Bhargav Shri Girdhari Lal;Maheshwari Smt. Kiran

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme formulated by the Government for disposal of E-Waste;

(b) the number of industrial and medical units in the country, particularly in Delhi, which are generating E-Waste;

(c) the approximate quantum of E-Waste generated in all the metro cities in the country; and

(d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c) AND (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 452 ON `E-WASTE` BY SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA AND SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI FOR ORAL REPLY ON 07.05.2007.

(a) The Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests have notified the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 which was amended in 2000 and 2003. The E-wastes are regulated under these rules.

(b) & (c) Industrial and medical units are not the only generators of E-wastes. E-wastes are also generated by the users of electrical and electronic gadgets.

(c) According to an assessment made in a study commissioned by Central Pollution Control Board to M/s IRG South Asia (Pvt.) Ltd, New Delhi, the estimated total generation of electrical and electronic wastes in the country is about 1,46,000 tonnes per year. The study also revealed that approximately 29,000 tonnes of E-waste is generated in the four Metro cities in the country.

(d) According to the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended in 2003, the residues and wastes generated from the operations in electronic industry are considered as hazardous wastes and are listed at Sl. No. 31 of Schedule 1 of these rules. Further, as per the provisions of these rules Electrical, and Electronics Assemblies are covered under Categories A-1180 and B-1110 in Schedule 3 which are applicable for import and export of hazardous wastes. The import of wastes under this category are only permitted for direct reuse and not for recycling or final disposal. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has undertaken a study for the preparation of `Guideline Document for Environmentally Sound Recycling of E-waste` for the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committee of the Union Territories and the industries for handling E-waste.